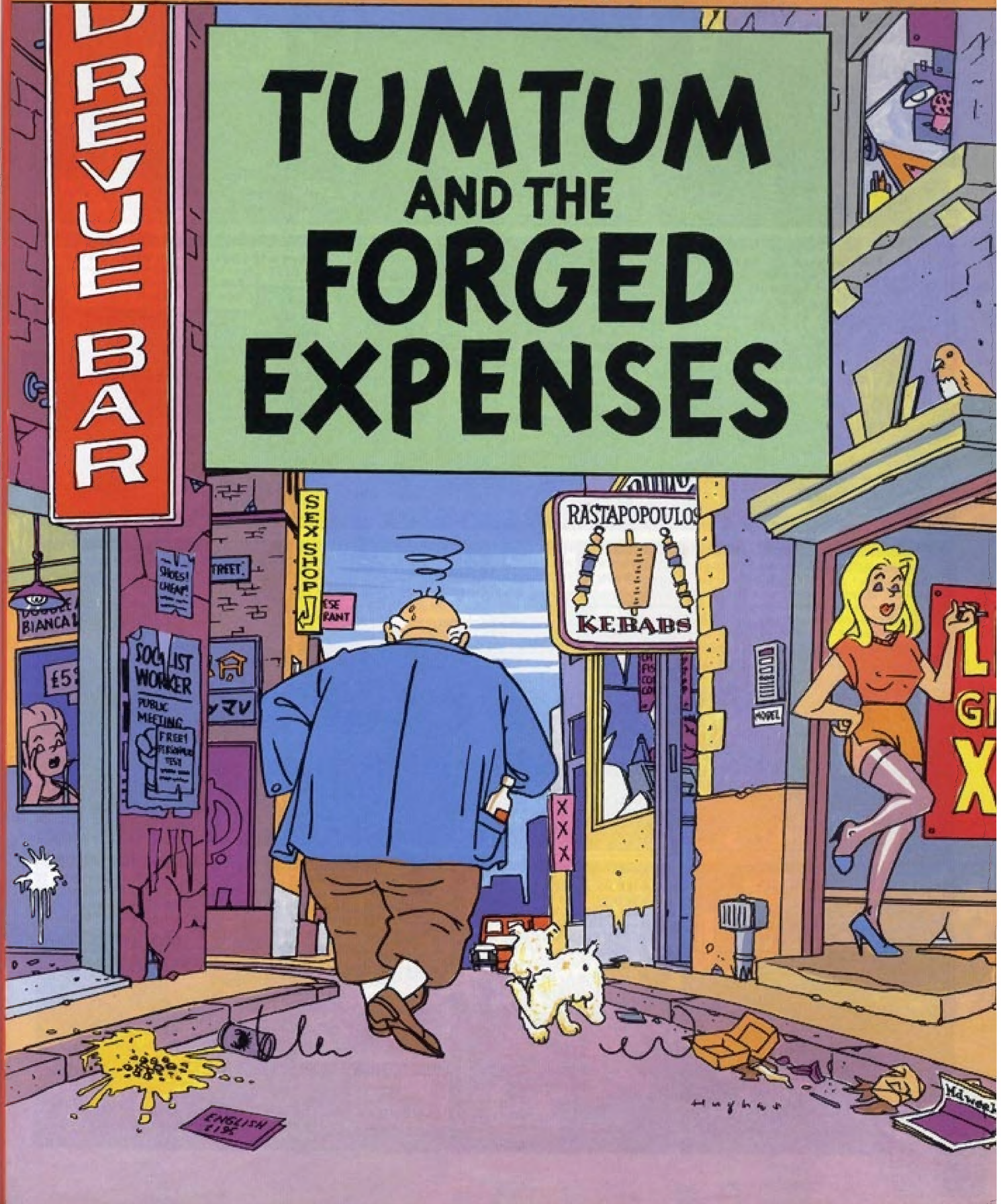


MERDÉ

THE ADVENTURES OF TUMTUM, OLD BOY REPORTER

TUMTUM AND THE FORGED EXPENSES



TUMTUM, BOY REPORTER, SOLVES 'SINGING SCARAB' MYSTERY

CAIRO, TUESDAY: Interpol yesterday arrested the entire gang of evil crooks involved in a fiendish plan to smuggle the world-famous Sphinx out of the country. The villains were foiled by the clever sleuthing of TUMTUM, the boy reporter, who singlehandedly unmasked the gang.
FULL STORY PAGES 2 & 3

Blimey, those were the days, eh Slushy... thirty years ago! Who'd have thought we'd end up at Wapping writing the bleedin' Page Three captions... eh, Slushy? ... Slushy?

Oi! Pack that in! I should never have saved you from that Doctor Spengler... *

Bastard

*See Tumtum and the Cross-eyed Vivisectionist

...ah well, suppose I'd better do some work this week... 'Curvy Karen is today's Crown Green Bowling Beauty. Feast your eyes on her lovely pair of woods'... oh, stuff it! What's the point? - I still can't work out how to turn on the word processor... If only something exciting would happen...

BRING

Whats that? 'Guided Missile... Ayatollah...? Red Alert...? Very interesting! This needs investigating!

At last! C'mon, Slushy! This is what we've been waiting for!

Another early lunch, Mr. Tumtum?

...£100 accumulator on 'Guided Missile' 'Ayatollah' and 'Red Alert' at Kempton Park, please darlin', and put it on the slate.

Sorry, Mr Tumtum, but the boss says no more credit 'till you pay your debts.

Tight-fisted bastards! Hey! I recognise that face! Higgins of the Globe... he's onto something! Come on, Slushy... after him!

So that's his game! Quick, we've got to beat him to it!

WAPPING OLD STREET

CLASS WAR

Got him! And with just seconds to spare!

Oh, hello Mr. Tumtum... first as usual, eh?

AAARGH!

Give us a vodka! .. Hang on, you're new here, aren't you? Where's Fred?

Mr. Fred was taken mysteriously ill... I am Chong, replacement barman. A vodka, did you say?

Heh Heh... and now to add that special something

WOOSH

Enjoy your drink, Mr Tumtum... Heh heh!

Poisoned! ...You bastard, you put tonic in this!... Give us a treble - and make it straight this time!

?



